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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/416,516	10/08/1999	SUSAN R. SALL	450.268US1	6265

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EXAMINER

LEWIS, DAVID LEE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 03/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JK

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/416,516

Applicant(s)

Sall

Examiner
David L Lewis

Art Unit
2673



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 11, 2002

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) Other: _____

Title: Method And Apparatus Having Multiple Display Devices

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. **Claims 1, 2, 6, 12, 13, 16, 17, 23, 24, 27, 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Rebeske (2950381).**

3. **As in claims 1, 13, and 23, Rebeske teaches of a display apparatus, method, and system comprising: a primary display device for a computer, figure 4 item 64; and at least one secondary display device for the computer, the at least one secondary display device operatively coupled to the computer and stored in a housing adjacent to the primary display device, such that the at least one secondary display device can be extended from the housing and used to display information for the computer, figure 4 item 70.**

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4. **As in claim 2, Rebeske teaches of**, wherein the at least one secondary display device is operatively coupled to the primary display device, **figure 4 item 73**. **As in claim 6, 16, 17, and 27** Rebeske **teaches of**, wherein the at least one secondary display device is extended from a side of the housing, **figure 4 item 77**. **As in claim 12, Rebeske teaches of**, further comprising at least one hinge coupling the at least one secondary display device to the housing, **figure 4 item 73**. **As in claim 24, Rebeske teaches of**, further comprising storing the at least one secondary display device behind the housing for the primary device, **figure 4, column 4 lines 5-21**.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 22, 25, 26, and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rebeske (6295038) in view of Hendry et al. (5682529).**

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7. **As in claims 22 and 30-32, Rebeske teaches of a system comprising: a computer, figure 1 item 1; a primary display device operatively coupled to the computer, figure 2 item 2a; at least one secondary display device operatively coupled to the primary display device and stored in a housing behind the primary display device, such that the at least one secondary display device can be extended from the housing and used to display information for the computer, figure 2 item 3 and 4, column 1 lines 58-66, column 2 lines 1-48. However Rebeske is silent as to said reconfiguration module located in the computer wherein the reconfiguration module is initiated when the at least one secondary display device is extended from the housing. Hendry et al. teaches of a reconfiguration module, figure 1 item 22, wherein the display manager within the operating system provides communication between each of the software or hardware components, to dynamically configure the plurality of display devices, column 3 lines 29-67, column 5 lines 55-67, column 6 lines 1-13. Further wherein Hendry et al. teaches this reconfiguration may occur automatically as a result of detecting the connection or disconnection of a device from the computer, for example upon insertion into or removal from a docking station, or the pivoting of a monitor from a portrait position to a landscape position. An example of a structure for a display notification is illustrated in Hendry et al.'s figure 3, wherein upon the rearrangement of the display system as taught by Rebeske, said notification would be shown to the user for input and or notice of said reconfiguration. Rebeske clearly teaches of a display devices within the scope of the invention as suggested by Hendry et al. Therefore it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan at the time of the invention to modify the computer**

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display device as taught by Rebeske by utilizing the display manager connected to computer hardware aspects of the device as a reconfiguration module by including software as suggested by Hendry et al. to reconfigure the display systems upon extending a display from the housing for purposes of expanding the display view, because Hendry et al. suggests the need for said reconfiguration in a computer display system with one or more display devices, **as found in claims 22, and 30-32.** Further **claims 25 and 26** would have been obvious to the skilled artisan for the same reasons of obviousness as applied to claims 22, and 30-32.

8. **Claims 2-5, 7-11, 14, 15, 18-21, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rebeske (6295038) in view of Failla (5128662).**
9. **As in claims 2-5, 14, and 15, and claims 7-10, 18-20 and 28 Rebeske teaches of the devices as applied above to claims 1, 13 and 23. However Rebeske is silent as to the specifics of said spring loaded switching, cable connection, and inverter board features. Said features however represent well known display housing interfacing components for connecting segmented displays and would have been an obvious design choice in the implementation of the device as taught by Rebeske. Failla teaches of a similar segmented display for a computer wherein spring loaded switching, ribbon cable connection, and inverter board features are utilized to implement the system display, column 8 lines 40-60, figures 7, 13, 17. Each of said features would have been obvious to the skilled artisan given**

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their well known use in the art for the implementation of such displays as suggested by Rebeske and Failla, as found in claims 2-5, 14, 15, and claims 7-10, 18-20, and 28. As in claims 11 and 21. Rebeske teaches of said invention as applied above to claims 1 and 13, however Rebeske is silent as to said plural secondary displays being extended from a top and side of said display. Failla teaches of an alternative embodiment where secondary displays are hingeably connected to a primary display for the purpose of increasing the view of a primary display. Given that the primary display of Rebeske includes more information than the secondary display, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to provided and additional hangably connect display or displays extending form the side of the primary display as suggested by Failla, modified by the extension from behind the primary display as taught by Rebeske, for the purpose of increasing the display area of the primary and information intense display, as found in claim 11 and 21.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. See Rebeske. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicants declaration under 37 CFR 1.131, wherein prior to November 19, 1998, the invention was reduced to practice, wherein a draft of the application is noted on July 1999. Therefore the rejection based on Gouko is withdrawn, and replaced with a rejection based on Rebeske filed on April 16, 1998.

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Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
5900848 and 5590021.
12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **David L. Lewis** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-3026**. The examiner can normally be reached on MT and THF from 8 to 5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached on (703) 305-4938. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600